

ミステリー  
霧の三

あ お さ お も で  
『乳房の思い出』



PHOTO ALBUMS  
ARE IMPRINTS OF TIME  
THAT HAS PASSED.  
IN THEM,  
MOMENTS TO WHICH  
WE CAN NEVER  
RETURN REMAIN,  
CAPTURED IN  
EACH AND EVERY  
PHOTOGRAPH.



ONCE IN A WHILE...  
DON'T YOU TAKE  
A LOOK THROUGH  
AN OLD PHOTO  
ALBUM...?

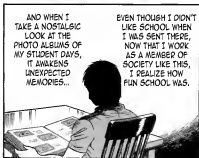
I ENJOY  
THE ALBUMS  
FILLED WITH  
PHOTOS OF  
MY STUDENT  
DAYS.



WHEN I'M TIRED OF  
DRAWING COMICS,  
I OPEN AN  
ALBUM FROM  
BEFORE I  
BECAME A  
COMIC ARTIST.

NOW  
(IN THIS ADVANCING  
TIME WE CALL  
THE PRESENT),  
WHEN I TOO  
FEEL TIRED,  
I OPEN AN OLD  
PHOTO ALBUM  
TO DWELL ON  
THE MOTIONLESS  
MOMENTS OF  
THE PAST.

AND WHEN I  
TAKE A NOSTALGIC  
LOOK AT THE  
PHOTO ALBUMS OF  
MY STUDENT DAYS,  
IT AWAKENS  
UNEXPECTED  
MEMORIES...



EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T  
LIKE SCHOOL WHEN  
I WAS SENT THERE,  
NOW THAT I WORK  
AS A MEMBER OF  
SOCIETY LIKE THIS,  
I REALIZE HOW  
FUN SCHOOL WAS.





BUT  
ANYWAY,  
THAT TIME  
...

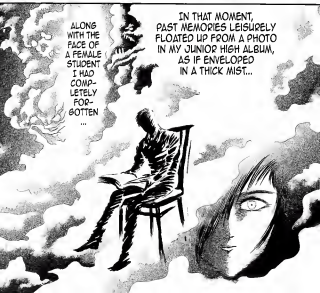
NO...  
I SHOULD SAY  
MEMORIES THAT I  
DELIBERATELY  
ERASED BECAUSE  
THEY WERE SO  
TERRIFYING...



MEMORIES  
I HAD  
COMPLETELY  
FORGOTTEN  
...

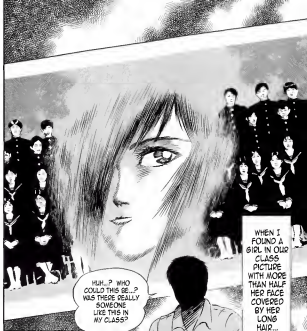
UNEX-  
PECTED  
MEMORIES  
...

IT  
HAPPENED  
THEN AS  
WELL...



ALONG  
WITH THE  
FACE OF  
A FEMALE  
STUDENT  
I HAD  
COMPLE-  
TELY  
FOR-  
GOTTEN  
...

IN THAT MOMENT,  
PAST MEMORIES LEISURELY  
FLOATED UP FROM A PHOTO  
IN MY JUNIOR HIGH ALBUM,  
AS IF ENVELOPED  
IN A THICK MIST...



HUH...? WHO  
COULD THIS BE...?  
WAS THERE REALLY  
SOMEONE  
LIKE THIS IN  
MY CLASS?

WHEN I  
FOUND A  
GIRL IN OUR  
CLASS  
PICTURE  
WITH MORE  
THAN HALF  
HER FACE  
COVERED  
BY HER  
LONG  
HAIR...



JUST  
WHO  
WAS  
SHE?

SAKAKO  
NAKA-  
SANO...?



HMMM,  
HER  
NAME  
IS...



HMMM

FARTHEST  
TO THE  
LEFT IN  
THE THIRD  
ROW..





LET'S  
ALL TRY  
TO GET  
ALONG.

WELL,  
GRADUATION IS  
ALMOST HERE,  
SO SHE'LL  
ONLY BE YOUR  
CLASSMATE FOR  
A SHORT TIME.

WHEN SHE...  
SAWAKO  
NAKAGAWA,  
TRANSFERRED  
N..

BUT A SORT OF  
SLOOMY ATMOSPHERE  
SHE HAD MADE  
OTHERS STAY AWAY.

HER LONG  
HAIR ALWAYS  
HID MOST OF  
HER FACE.

SHE WASN'T  
ONE TO  
STAND OUT...  
ALWAYS  
LOOKING  
DOWN...



HER SKIN,  
SO PALE IT  
WAS ALMOST  
TRANSPARENT,  
MADE HER  
SEEM EVEN  
MORE  
BEAUTIFUL.

SUDDENLY...  
I SAW  
HER FACE  
WHEN SHE  
PULLED HER  
HAIR UP AND  
REALIZED  
SHE WAS  
ACTUALLY  
A BEAUTY.

ONE  
DAY,  
I...







HER  
HOUSE WAS  
ON THE  
WAY TO  
MINE.

FOR SOME  
REASON,  
SHE TALKED  
MORE THAN  
USUAL AND  
WE HAD A  
FUN WALK  
HOME.

SHE  
MUST HAVE  
FELT THE  
LIBERATION  
OF  
GRADUATION  
AS WELL  
...



I'M HOME.  
I'M WITH A FRIEND.



WE PROBABLY WON'T  
GET TO SEE  
EACH OTHER  
AGAIN, SO

WANT TO  
COME IN?



HER  
TRAGIC,  
TERRIBLE  
SECRET  
...

AND THEN I  
LEARNED HER...  
SAWAKO  
NAKAGAWA'S  
SECRET.







SO... I  
DON'T THINK  
MY FRIEND  
WILL COME  
FOR YOU...

YOU'RE  
A MAN...  
SO YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
BREASTS...



TEARS  
SUDDENLY  
SPILLED  
FROM HER  
EYES...

BECAUSE SHE'LL  
PROBABLY  
GO AFTER  
ANYONE I GET  
CLOSE TO...



Ye  
YEAH.



WILL  
YOU  
LISTEN  
TO ME?



BIT BY BIT,  
NAKABANA  
BEGAN TO TELL  
THE STORY ABOUT  
HER BEST FRIEND  
AND THE BABY  
THAT WAS  
THAT FRIEND'S  
YOUNGER  
BROTHER...

IT  
HAPPENED  
A YEAR AGO,  
GUY...

SANAKO NAKABANA'S  
BEST FRIEND  
IN THE PICTURE...  
I CAN'T EVEN  
REMEMBER HER  
NAME ANYMORE...



IT  
SEEMS U-KO  
BECAME A  
SURROGATE  
MOTHER  
TO HER  
YOUNGER  
BROTHER.

WELL,  
SHE HAD NO ONE,  
BUT HER MOTHER  
DIVORCED HER  
FATHER AND LEFT  
RIGHT AFTER  
GIVING BIRTH TO  
HER BROTHER...



NAKASAWA'S  
FRIEND...  
LET'S CALL  
HER U-KO...  
HAD NO  
MOTHER.



U-KO  
SEEMED TO  
BE ENJOYING  
HERSELF EVEN  
WHILE SHE  
SAID THINGS  
LIKE THAT...  
SHE REALLY  
LOVED HER  
LITTLE BROTHER  
...

IT'S AWFUL...  
I'M SO  
TIRED OUT.

TAKING  
CARE OF  
A BABY  
IS HARD  
WORK.

U-KO WOULD ALWAYS  
MAKE NAKASAWA  
LISTEN TO  
VARIOUS STORIES  
ABOUT HER  
YOUNGER BROTHER,  
AS IF SHE  
ENJOYED TAKING  
CARE OF HIM.



I'M NOT  
REALLY  
A MOTHER,  
AFTER ALL  
...

OF COURSE  
NOT.  
MY BREASTS  
DON'T HAVE  
ANY MILK.



HUH-!?  
YOU  
BREAST  
FEED  
HIM?

HIS FIRST  
BABY TEETH  
HAVE BEEN  
COMING  
IN LATELY

MY CHEST  
HURTS.  
HE BIT ME  
ON MY BREAST.



HAVING  
A BABY  
SUCK ON  
YOU...?

WHAT'S  
IT FEEL  
LIKE?

H-HH-?



SO I  
LET HIM  
SUCK ON ME  
SOME-  
TIMES.

I GIVE  
HIM MILK  
THROUGH  
A BOTTLE.

BUT  
IT'S INSTINCT  
FOR HIM TO  
WANT TO GRAB  
BREASTS,  
YOU KNOW?

WOW.



U-KO  
SEEMED TO  
BE DOING  
WELL ACTING  
AS A  
MOTHER...

BUT THAT  
DIDN'T LAST  
LONG.

ONE NIGHT,  
AN INCIDENT  
OCCURED!!



TEE  
HEE

IT  
TICK-  
LES.



REA-  
LLY?

ミストストーリー





U-KO'S SEAT  
WAS STILL EMPTY  
ALMOST A MONTH  
AFTER THE  
BABY'S DEATH...



HE FELL  
STRAIGHT  
DOWN  
FROM THE  
SECOND  
FLOOR  
RAILINGS.

IN THE  
INSTANT  
U-KO  
TOOK  
HER EYES  
OFF HIM  
...



U-KO BECAME  
SILENT AND  
WOULDN'T TALK  
TO NAKABANA  
ANYMORE...

AND WHEN SHE  
CAME BACK TO SCHOOL  
AFTER A MONTH,  
SHE WASN'T THE CHEERFUL  
U-KO FROM BEFORE.  
HER CHEEKS WERE  
HOLLOW AND SUNKEN...



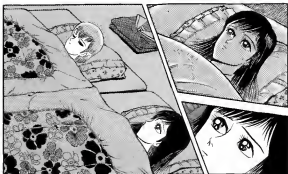
HER  
EXPRESSION  
WAS  
BROODING...

SANAKO  
...  
I HAVE  
A REQUEST  
...

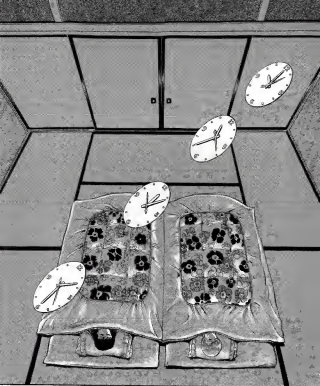
BUT  
ONE DAY,  
U-KO...











NAKASAWA, WHO  
NORMALLY FELL  
ASLEEP EASILY,  
LAY AWAKE ALL  
THAT NIGHT...

AND THEN...





OUT OF THE OPENING,  
A BABY DRIPPING  
BRIGHT RED BLOOD,  
FLOATING TWO OR  
THREE CENTIMETERS  
OFF THE GROUND,  
IT'S EYES GIVING  
OFF A GOLDEN LIGHT,  
CRAWLED SLOWLY  
THROUGH THE AIR!







AS THE UNUSUAL  
SIGHT MET HER EYES...  
HER PARALYZED  
BODY COULDN'T  
EVEN RAISE A CRY...



WATCHING U-KO  
FAINT IN AGONY  
AS HER BREAST  
WAS SUCKED BY THE  
BLOODSTAINED BABY,  
NAKAGAWA  
PASSED OUT...



—WHEN SHE CAME  
TO THE NEXT MORNING,  
NAKAGAWA RAN FROM  
U-KO AND DASHED  
OUT OF THE  
HOUSE.

—AFTER  
THAT,  
U-KO

...





RUMORS  
SPRING UP  
THAT SHE WAS  
SEEING A  
NEUROLOGIST  
FOR  
NEUROSES...

STOPPED  
COMING TO  
SCHOOL  
AGAIN...



OR—

COULD IT  
HAVE BEEN  
AN ILLUSION  
CREATED  
BY U-KO'S  
SENSE OF  
GUILT FOR  
LETTING THE  
BABY DIE...?

WHAT  
COULD  
THAT  
HAVE  
BEEN...?



DID THE  
PREMATURELY  
DEAD BABY'S  
LONGING FOR  
'LIFE' TAKE THAT  
FORM AND SEEK  
OUT U-KO'S  
BREAST?

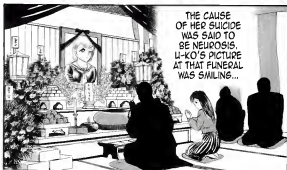


SHE STABBED HERSELF  
IN THE THROAT  
AND CHEST WITH  
A KITCHEN KNIFE,  
AND DIES

IT WAS  
SUICIDE

...

**A  
month  
later,  
U-ko  
died!!**



THE CAUSE  
OF HER SUICIDE  
WAS SAID TO  
BE NEUROSIS.  
U-KO'S PICTURE  
AT THAT FUNERAL  
WAS SMILING...

—AFTER THAT,  
TWO OR THREE  
MONTHS PASSED  
WITHOUT HER  
THINKING MUCH  
OF U-KO.

THEN,  
ONE DAY

...

THOUGHT  
THAT U-KO  
MUST HAVE  
BEEN  
CALLED BY  
THAT BABY...



WHILE SHE  
LOOKED  
AT U-KO'S  
PICTURE,  
NAKASAWA  
THOUGHT.



PERHAPS IT  
WAS BECAUSE  
OF LEFTOVER  
EXCITEMENT FROM  
THE DAY'S FUN,  
BUT SHE  
COULDN'T  
SLEEP.

IT WAS A  
SATURDAY.

NAKAGAWA  
HAD RETURNED  
HOME AFTER  
PLAYING WITH  
A FRIEND  
UNTIL LATE.



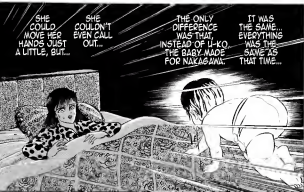
SHE  
FELT AS IF  
SOMETHING  
WAS IN  
THE ROOM  
WITH HER.

SUD-  
DENLY,

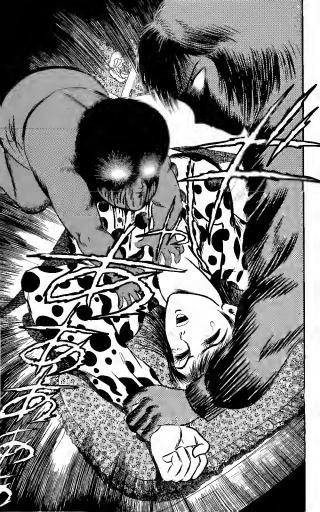


AND  
WHEN  
THE  
CLOCK  
BY HER  
PILLOW  
STRUCK  
TWO















WHEN I REMEMBER  
SAWAKO NAKAGAWA'S  
SAD, DARK, AND  
BEAUTIFUL FACE,  
A MEMORY FAINT  
AS IF IT LIES  
THROUGH MIST...

I FEEL AS IF  
I CAN HEAR  
A BABY'S  
PIERCING CRY...

I'VE NEVER MET  
SAWAKO NAKAGAWA  
AGAIN SINCE THAT DAY.

EVEN WHEN I GO TO  
THE OCCASIONAL  
CLASS REUNION,  
NO ONE TALKS  
ABOUT HER...

I'M SURE THEY'VE  
ALL FORGOTTEN  
ABOUT HER...

LIKE I HAVE...





Manga at the End of Time  
& happyscan! presents:

Mist Story- Vol. 1- ch. 3  
Memories of the Breast  
by Go Nagai

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